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**REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
Provides for continued examination of a utility or plant  
Application filed on or after June 8, 1995.  
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

Application Number: 09/896,059  
Filing Date: June 29, 2001  
First Named Inventor: Debashis Bhattacharya  
Group Art Unit: 2825  
Examiner Name: Thompson, Annette M.  
Attorney Docket Number: 162.7107USU  
Customer No.: 27623

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**Note:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 153 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (August 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (March 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

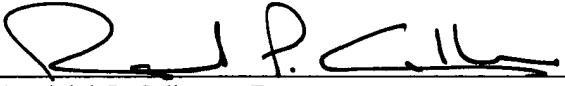
1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114
  - a. XXXXXX Previously submitted
    - i. XXXXXX Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 previously resubmitted on March 10, 2004 (any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
    - ii. \_\_\_\_\_ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
    - iii. \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed
    - i. \_\_\_\_\_ Amendment/Reply
    - ii. \_\_\_\_\_ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
    - iii. \_\_\_\_\_ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
    - iv. \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_
2. Miscellaneous
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_
3. Fees The RCE fee Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
  - a. XXXXXX The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 01-0467.
    - i. XXXXXX RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
    - ii. XXXXXX Extension of Time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
    - iii. \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ Check in the amount of \$495.00 enclosed
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

June 25, 2004  
Date of Signature

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